

**ABSTRACT**

To provide a data holding device and a data holding method with which data can be held even when the power source is interrupted and the held data can be restored accurately, which  
5 does not largely increase the circuit area, and which does not require fine timing control. In data restoring operation, a reading signal is applied to the other end 5b of a ferroelectric capacitor 5 with the power source of the data holding device  
1 on. An electric charge corresponding to a polarization state  
10 stored in the ferroelectric capacitor 5 is thereby discharged to a ferroelectric connecting node 17. At this time, transfer gates 11 and 15 are both off. Thus, the electric charge discharged to the ferroelectric connecting node 17 does not leak through the transfer gates 11 and 15. The potential at the  
15 ferroelectric connecting node 17 accurately reflects the discharged electric charge.